

NEWS & NOTES

NATIONAL • STATE • COUNTY

MARIN

Dr. Arthur R. Ablin of San Rafael was elected president-elect of the Marin Medical Society, it was announced at the annual election meeting of the society early last month. In January, Dr. Robert L. Mills of Ross will be installed as president for 1966.

Dr. Robert F. Schell, San Rafael, was reelected secretary-treasurer.

SAN FRANCISCO

Dr. Samuel R. Sherman, San Francisco, former president of the California Medical Association and now chairman of the Bureau of Research and Planning, has been appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson to the 16-member Health Insurance Benefits Advisory Council. The Council will help in the formation of Government policies for operation of the new Medicare program.

Dr. Sherman is chairman of both the Council of Legislative Activities and the Council on Economics of Medical Care of the American Medical Association.

GENERAL

Beginning in January, CPS-Blue Shield programs for Employees of the State of California will pay usual, customary and reasonable fees to Physician Members for covered services when the employee's family income is more than \$7,500 annually. Payments for employees with less than \$7,500 annual income will be based on the 1964 Relative Value Studies with a \$5 unit value (CPS Schedule 4D).

The State Employees group makes up one of the largest single segments of CPS-Blue Shield membership, approximately 86,000 persons, including both employees and their families.

Simultaneous with the introduction of the new professional coverage, the California State Employees Association plan which has been written by CPS for nearly 25 years is being merged with the joint Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan endorsed and sponsored by the State Employees Retirement System. Under the new arrangement, state employees will have Blue Cross hospital benefits and Blue Shield professional coverage. State employees will be offered two levels of Blue Cross-Blue Shield cov-

"Immunization—Your Insurance for Good Health" is a new bi-lingual pamphlet available through the California Medical Association's Commission on Community Health Services.

"The Committee on Rural Health prepared the pamphlet with migratory farm workers particularly in mind," according to Dr. Leo Snyder of Fresno, committee chairman. "It is printed in English on one side, and in 'shirt-sleeve' Spanish on the other," he said.

A history of immunization, information about record keeping and the effects, types and value of immunization are included in the pamphlet. A chart gives the recommended age to start immunization, number of dosages, intervals between them and other pertinent information.

The pamphlet is available from the CMA, 693 Sutter Street, San Francisco 94102.

erage. However the professional services covered will be the same for both. The differences between the "standard service" and "partial service" plans are in hospital coverage.

The upgrading of the professional coverage for state employees culminates months of effort. For several years CPS has been progressively improving the coverage held by this group, and first introduced the \$5 unit fee schedule more than two years ago. Up until this time, however, the state has retained a "low option" professional coverage as well as the "high option" with the \$5 unit conversion. CPS intensified its efforts during the past year to persuade the state of the mutual advantages of upgrading the coverage. Through these efforts the contract was renegotiated to include the plan paying usual and customary fees on behalf of upper income employees.

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Deadline for submitting manuscripts for this year's William Osler medal of the American Association for the History of Medicine is 23 March 1966. The medal awarded for the best unpublished essay on a medico-historical subject written by a student in one of the medical schools in the United States or Canada. All students who are candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, or who graduated in 1965, are eligible.

Essays should demonstrate either original research or an unusual appreciation and understanding of a medico-historical problem. Maximum length is 10,000 words. The prize-winning essay will be submitted to the Editorial Committee of the Association, which may recommend it for publication in the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*.

Essays must be submitted, before the deadline, to the chairman of the Osler Medal Committee, William K. Beatty, librarian and professor of medical bibliography, Northwestern University Medical School, 303 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago 60611.